

or serious injury is anticipated, and the potential for temporary or permanent hearing impairment will be avoided through the incorporation of the mitigation measures mentioned in this document and required by the authorization. No rookeries, mating grounds, areas of concentrated feeding, or other areas of special significance for marine mammals occur within or near the planned area of operations during the season of operations.

NMFS has preliminarily determined that the proposed seismic activity by SOI in the northern Chukchi Sea and central and eastern Beaufort Sea in 2007 will not have an unmitigable adverse impact on the subsistence uses of bowhead whales and other marine mammals. This determination is supported by the information in this **Federal Register** Notice, including: (1) Seismic activities in the Chukchi Sea will not begin until after July 15 by which time the spring bowhead hunt is expected to have ended; (2) that the fall bowhead whale hunt in the Beaufort Sea will either be governed by a CAA between SOI and the AEWC and village whaling captains or by mitigation measures contained in the IHA; (3) the CAA or IHA conditions will significantly reduce impacts on subsistence hunters to ensure that there will not be an unmitigable adverse impact on subsistence uses of marine mammals; (4) while it is possible that accessibility to belugas during the spring subsistence beluga hunt could be impaired by the survey, it is unlikely because very little of the proposed survey is within 25 km (15.5 mi) of the Chukchi Sea coast, meaning the vessel will usually be well offshore and away from areas where seismic surveys would influence beluga hunting by communities; and (5) because seals (ringed, spotted, bearded) are hunted in nearshore waters and the seismic survey will remain offshore of the coastal and nearshore areas of these seals where natives would harvest these seals, it should not conflict with harvest activities.

As a result of these preliminary determinations, NMFS proposes to issue an IHA to SOI for conducting a seismic survey in the northern Chukchi Sea and central and eastern Beaufort Sea in 2007, provided the previously mentioned mitigation, monitoring, and reporting requirements are incorporated. NMFS has preliminarily determined that the proposed activity would result in the harassment of only small numbers of marine mammals; would have no more than a negligible impact on the affected marine mammal stocks; and would not have an unmitigable

adverse impact on the availability of species or stocks for subsistence uses.

Dated: May 30, 2007.

**James H. Lecky,**

*Director, Office of Protected Resources,  
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. E7-10953 Filed 6-6-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**RIN 0648-XA43**

#### Endangered and Threatened Species; Take of Anadromous Fish

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Issuance of a scientific research permit.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that NMFS has issued Permit 1282 to Stillwater Sciences (Stillwater) in Arcata, CA. Permit 1282 affects threatened species of salmon and steelhead (see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**). Permit 1282 will more effectively manage the resources of the named species and contribute to the support of the species through data assessment and consequent actions associated with data collection.

**ADDRESSES:** The application, permit, and related documents are available for review by appointment at: Protected Resources Division, NMFS, 777 Sonoma Avenue, Room 315, Santa Rosa, CA 95404 (ph: 707-575-6097, fax: 707-578-3435, e-mail at: [Jeffrey.Jahn@noaa.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Jahn@noaa.gov)).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jeffrey Jahn at 707-575-6097, or e-mail: [Jeffrey.Jahn@noaa.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Jahn@noaa.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Authority**

The issuance of permits and permit modifications, as required by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543) (ESA), is based on a finding that such permits/modifications: (1) are applied for in good faith; (2) would not operate to the disadvantage of the listed species which are the subject of the permits; and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA. Authority to take listed species is subject to conditions set forth in the permits. Permits and modifications are issued in accordance with and are subject to the ESA and NMFS

regulations (50 CFR parts 222-226) governing listed fish and wildlife permits.

#### **Species Covered in This Notice**

This notice is relevant to federally threatened Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), endangered Central California Coast coho salmon (*O. kisutch*), threatened California Coastal Chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*), endangered Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*), threatened Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*), threatened Northern California steelhead (*O. mykiss*), threatened Central California Coast steelhead (*O. mykiss*), threatened California Central Valley steelhead (*O. mykiss*), threatened South-Central California Coast steelhead (*O. mykiss*), and endangered Southern California steelhead (*O. mykiss*).

#### **Permit Issued**

A notice of the receipt of an application for a scientific research permit (1282) was published in the **Federal Register** on January 22, 2007 (72 FR 2658). Permit 1282 was issued to Stillwater on May 1, 2007. Permit 1282 authorizes capture (by boat electrofishing, backpack electrofishing, beach seine, purse seine, rotary screw trap, pipe-trap, fyke-net trap, and trawl), handling, sampling (by collection of scales, fin-clips, or stomach contents), and marking (using fin-clips, passive integrated transponder (PIT) tags, visible implant elastomer (VIE) tags, or acoustic telemetry tags), and release of juvenile Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast coho salmon, Central California Coast coho salmon, California Coastal Chinook salmon, Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon, Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon, Northern California steelhead, Central California Coast steelhead, California Central Valley steelhead, South-Central California Coast steelhead, and Southern California steelhead. Permit 1282 also authorizes capture (by boat electrofishing, backpack electrofishing, or beach seine), handling, and release of adult California Central Valley steelhead.

Permit 1282 is for research to be conducted in the following water bodies, listed by county, all within the State of California: Tillas Slough (Smith River Estuary) and Lake Earl/Lake Tolowa in Del Norte County; Stone Lagoon, Big Lagoon, Humboldt Bay, and Eel River estuary/lagoon in Humboldt County; Ten Mile River estuary/lagoon, Virgin Creek estuary/lagoon, Pudding

Creek estuary/lagoon, and numerous ponds in the vicinity of Manchester, California (including Davis Lake, Davis Pond, Hunter's Lagoon, and numerous unnamed water bodies in the lower Garcia River flood plain) in Mendocino County; Gualala River, Salmon Creek estuary/lagoon, and Estero Americano in Sonoma County; Estero de San Antonio, Walker Creek, Lagunitas Creek, and Rodeo Lagoon in Marin County; San Gregorio Creek estuary/lagoon, Pescadero Lagoon (Pescadero Creek/Butano Creek estuary/lagoon), and Arroyo de los Frijoles estuary/lagoon in San Mateo County; Laguna Creek estuary/lagoon, Baldwin Creek estuary/lagoon, Corcoran Lagoon, Aptos Creek estuary/lagoon, and Pajaro River estuary/lagoon in Santa Cruz County; Bennett Slough in Monterey County; Santa Paula Creek in Ventura County; Cow Creek in Shasta County; Battle Creek in Shasta and Tehama counties; Butte Creek in Glenn and Butte counties; Mokelumne River in Sacramento and San Joaquin counties; Sherman Island in Sacramento County; Napa River in Napa County; Tuolumne River in Stanislaus County; and Merced River in Merced County.

Permit 1282 authorizes average unintentional lethal take of juvenile ESA-listed salmonids of approximately 2 percent of ESA-listed salmonids captured. Permit 1282 does not authorize lethal take of adult ESA-listed salmonids or intentional lethal take of ESA-listed salmonids. The purpose of the research is to provide ESA-listed salmonid population, distribution, and habitat assessment data which will: (1) contribute to the general body of scientific knowledge pertaining to ESA-listed salmonids; (2) inform resource managers to further the conservation and recovery of ESA-listed salmonids; and (3) evaluate the effectiveness of past habitat restoration projects and guide future habitat restoration projects to best benefit ESA-listed salmonids. Permit 1282 expires on December 31, 2012.

Dated: May 30, 2007.

**Angela Somma**

*Chief, Endangered Species Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. E7-10948 Filed 6-6-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-22-S**

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## ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

### Sunshine Act Notice

**AGENCY:** United States Election Assistance Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of Plenary Teleconference Meeting for the Technical Guidelines Development Committee.

**DATE AND TIME:** Tuesday, July 3, 2007, 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EDT.

**PLACE:** National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, Building 101, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-8900.

**STATUS:** This teleconference meeting will be Web cast to the public. Additional meeting information and URL Web link for the event will be available at <http://vote.nist.gov>. by June 19, 2007.

**SUMMARY:** The Technical Guidelines Development Committee (the "Development Committee") has scheduled a plenary teleconference meeting for July 3, 2007. The Development Committee was established in 2004 to act in the public interest to assist the Executive Director of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) in the development of voluntary voting system guidelines. The Development Committee has held nine previous plenary meetings. The proceedings of these plenary sessions are available at <http://vote.nist.gov>. The purpose of the tenth meeting of the Development Committee will be to review and approve a final draft of recommendations for future voluntary voting system guidelines to the EAC. The draft recommendations respond to tasks defined in resolutions passed at the previous Development Committee meetings as well as a review of a complete draft of recommendations presented at the May 2007 plenary meeting.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Technical Guidelines Development Committee (the "Development Committee") has scheduled a plenary teleconference meeting for July 3, 2007. The Committee was established pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 15361, to act in the public interest to assist the Executive Director of the Election Assistance Commission in the development of the voluntary voting system guidelines. The Technical Guidelines Development Committee held their first plenary meeting on July 9, 2004. At this meeting, the Development Committee agreed to a resolution forming three working groups: (1) Human Factors & Privacy; (2) Security & Transparency; and (3) Care Requirements & Testing to gather information and review preliminary reports on issues pertinent to voluntary voting standard recommendations. At subsequent plenary sessions, additional

resolutions were debated and adopted by the TGDC. The resolutions define technical work tasks for NIST that assist the TGDC in developing recommendations for voluntary voting system guidelines. The Development Committee approved initial recommendations for voluntary voting system guidelines at the April 20th & 21st, 2005 meeting. The recommendation were formally delivered to the EAC in May 2005 for their review. In September of 2005, the Development Committee began review of preliminary technical reports for the next iteration of voluntary voting system guidelines. The Committee will review, debate and approve a final draft of recommendations of the next iteration of voluntary voting system guidelines at the July 3, 2007 teleconference meeting.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Allan Eustis 301-975-5099. If a member of the public would like to submit comments concerning the Committee's affairs at any time before or after the meeting, written comments should be addressed to the contact person indicated above, c/o NIST, 100 Bureau Drive, Mail Stop 8970, Gaithersburg, MD 20899 or to [voting@nist.gov](mailto:voting@nist.gov).

**Thomas R. Wilkey,**

*Executive Director, U.S. Election Assistance Commission.*

[FR Doc. 07-2839 Filed 6-4-07; 4:15 pm]

**BILLING CODE 6820-KF-M**

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## DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

[OE Docket No. PP-305]

### Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and Conduct Scoping; Montana Alberta Tie, Ltd.

**AGENCY:** Department of Energy (DOE).

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Energy (DOE) announces its intention to prepare an EIS and to conduct scoping on the proposed Federal action of granting a Presidential permit to construct a new electric transmission line across the U.S.-Canada border in northwestern Montana. DOE has determined that issuance of a Presidential permit for the proposed project would constitute a major Federal action that may have a significant effect upon the environment within the meaning of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). For this reason, DOE intends to prepare an EIS entitled "The Montana Alberta Tie, Ltd. (MATL) 230-kV Transmission Line